

## **REMARKS**

### **Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-34, 37-40, 60 and 61 are pending.

Claims 1 and 61 have been amended.

No new matter has been added.

### **Objections to the specification**

The specification at page 14, line 16-19 has been amended to include the numeral 30 after membrane electrode assembly (MEA). Accordingly, this objection is believed to be overcome.

### **Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 112, second paragraph**

In page 2, paragraph 1 of the Office Action, Claims 1-34, 37-40, 60 and 61 were under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner states that there is no indication whether Y groups in monomers 1a and 1b must be the same or if different Y groups may be used. Claim 61 was rejected as being dependent from cancelled claim 56.

In page 2, paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Claims 1-34, 37-40, 60 and 61 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 USC § 112, second paragraph rejection.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that Y is selected independently for monomers 1a and 1b. Support for the amendment is found in the specification at page 8, structures 1a and 1b, and page 9 structures 1a and 1b. As seen from the reaction scheme q can vary from 0, 1, 2, and 3 to give different monomers for 1a; q can vary from 0, 1, 2, and 3 to give different monomers for 1b. Further, page 13, line 22-24 of the specification states that a mixture of grafting monomers could be used in

the polymerization process. Thus the Applicants submit that Y can be the same or different for monomers 1a and 1b in the grafting reactions.

Claim 61 has been amended to depend from Claim 60. Support for this amendment is found in the specification page 14, line 15 to page 15 line 22 and in original Claims 60 and 56.

Accordingly, removal of the rejection and allowance of Claims 1-34, 37-40, 60 and 61 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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